1st November 1935]

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" May I ask the Hon. Member why none from the Vanniyakula Kshatriya community has been selected for the Sub-Inspector's post in this presidency? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Obviously the Commission did not find any suitable candidates from that community."

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" May I know how many from that community applied for the post? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" The Government have no information, Sir."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I ask, Sir, if Kshatriyas do not come next to Brahmans in point of social status? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I am afraid I am not an expert in communal gradations and divisions, Sir."

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" May I ask if the Government are aware of the strength of the community in the whole presidency, Sir? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" The Government are aware of it from what is contained in the Census Report, Sir."

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" Will the Government sympathetically look into the matter in future at least? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" The Government cannot promise to consider the claims of the various sub-communities among the Non-Brahman Hindus."

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" Will the Government at least understand the strength of that community and paucity of its representation? "

Punitive police at Attayampatti, Salem district.

* 393 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the latest report received with regard to the punitive police at Attayampatti in Salem district is and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the villagers are willing to compose their differences and made representations to the District Magistrate to that effect and prayed for the removal of the punitive police from their midst;

(*c*) at what stage the consideration of their prayers is and when the punitive police is likely to be removed;

(*d*) when the force was originally introduced and what the amount collected from the people each year towards the maintenance of the same is;

(*e*) how the total cost is apportioned among the people, and at what rate the collections are made from them;

(*f*) whether the levy is made in the whole village or in a portion, whether it is made from all sections or from only a certain section of the people and, if the latter is the case, how this differentiation is made;

(*g*) what the strength is of the force at present stationed in the village as punitive police and what the strength was of that force to start with; and

(*h*) whether there is a regular police station at that place, and whether they will not be able to manage with the situation there?

A.—(*a*) The latest report received by the Government is dated the 27th November 1934. Relevant extracts [a] therefrom are placed on the table of the House.

(*b*) The Government have no such information. The hon. Member is however referred to paragraph 1 of the endorsement of the District Magistrate of Salem which is among the papers placed on the table. It makes no reference to villagers having expressed their willingness to compose their differences.

(*c*) The recommendation of the District Magistrate that the additional police force should be continued till 31st December 1935 was made after due consideration of the representations made by the villagers. The officers concerned have been asked to report as soon as they consider further retention of the force unnecessary. The force will be withdrawn when the Government are satisfied that conditions in the village warrant its withdrawal.

(*d*) The force was stationed with effect from the 1st January 1933. As regards the amount collected from the inhabitants in each year since 1933, the hon. Member is referred to paragraph 3 of the District Magistrate's endorsement which is placed on the table.

(*e*) The Government have no information. Under section 15 (4) of the Police Act, 1861, the District Magistrate is competent to apportion the cost according to his judgment of the respective means of the inhabitants of Attayampatti village.

(*f*) The cost of the additional police is collected from all the inhabitants of the village, excepting those who have been exempted by the Local Government in consideration of the assistance which they have rendered the authorities in attempting to put an end to the factions in the village.

(*g*) The strength of the additional police force now stationed in the village is one sub-inspector and seven constables. That was also the strength of the force originally sanctioned.

(*h*) The answer to the first part of the question is 'Yes' and to the second part 'No.'

---

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 424-426 infra.

1st November 1935]

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" In answer to clause (a) it is stated that the last report received by the Government was on the 27th November 1934. May I ask whether the Government are not getting any periodical report with regard to the keeping on of Punitive Police in these places?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" In this case the extension was for a definite period of one year and at the time of the extension the Government advised the District Magistrate and the other local officials to report if there be such improvement in the state of things as would justify the withdrawal of the punitive police and obviously the situation has not improved to such an extent as would justify the local officials to making a report; and no report has been received."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I enquire, Sir, whether it is a fact that representations have been made to the District Magistrate to the effect that commission of crimes in that area is to some extent due to the encouragement of the punitive police themselves?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" We have no information. I shall be extremely thankful if the hon. Member will bring any such specific instance to my notice."

Electricity

Interruption of the Hydro-Electric Works at Mettur.

* 394 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the hydro-electric construction at Mettur had been stopped during August and September of this year;

(b) if so, why and when it was commenced again; and

(c) when the works are expected to be finished?

A.—(a) Work on the foundations of the power-house at Mettur was stopped for a portion of the two months August–September.

(b) The water level in the Mettur reservoir was so low in the middle of August 1935 that the high level sluices could not discharge any substantial amount of water and as owing to slips in the low level channel earlier in the season it was advisable to limit the discharge from the low level sluices, the supply to the delta had to be augmented by issues through the hydro-electric pipes in the dam. After the reservoir rose to a safe level, orders were issued on the 16th September 1935 to close the pipes and the work of dewatering the power-house foundation area was begun.

(c) The Mettur Hydro-Electric Scheme is expected to be completed in 1937–38.